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CASAS GRANDES FALLS; BLANCO IS A PRISONER

Rebels Under Pascual Orozco Take Most Important Town In Ranching and Lumbering District Southwest of Juarez

CONTROL MEXICAN NORTHWESTERN

Report Comes That After Taking Ascension, Salazar Orders Fourteen Federal Prisoners Executed in the Public Plaza.

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH]
EL PASO, Dec. 23.—Casas Grandes, the most important town in the lumber and ranching district southwest of Juarez, has been taken by the rebels, personally commanded by Pascual Orozco. It was reported today from both federal and rebel official sources. It is also said that a federal column of 800 men, marching against the rebels at Ascension, have been defeated, with its commander, General Jose Blanco, among the prisoners taken.

Confirming this report, S. D. Ambrose, an American hotel man of Columbus, N. W., arrived here today. He was in Ascension at the time of its capture last Wednesday and talked with General Salazar, whose forces took the town. While there a messenger arrived directly from General Orozco with a letter from the rebel leader saying he had taken Casas Grandes and defeated Blanco. Blanco's force was entrapped, the official report says, in a canyon north of Casas Grandes.

Aside from the capturing of many rifles and much ammunition the rebels secured two cannons. Details of the battle are lacking, but Casas Grandes was taken easily, Orozco wrote, as only 200 men had been left by the federals to protect the town.

By taking Casas Grandes, the scene of a hard struggle in the Madero revolution, in which the rebels were repulsed, Orozco revolutionists control the Mexico Northwestern railway, between Juarez, on the border, and Chihuahua City, the state capital, and the territory covered by the American railway, which includes the Pearson syndicate's lumbering towns of Pearson and Madera, and San Pedro, in the mining district.

The railway wires are not operating west from Chihuahua City or below Juarez and no railway confirmation of the town's fall could be obtained. The attack was made on the old Casas Grandes, the largest town in the district. The railway officers' and Americans' homes are at the new town, some miles away, and it is believed that no foreigners were injured.

After taking Ascension last week, fourteen federal prisoners, including a captain, were executed in the public plaza, the refugees report today. Major L. C. Quinteros, the Ascension federal commander, escaped and arrived at the New Mexico border with one soldier as a companion. They are held by the United States troops below Hachita.

Federals on Move.
EL PASO, Dec. 23.—Six hundred federal cavalry departed late today from Juarez by train to proceed over the Mexico Northwestern railway, which is being repaired, to Guzman and thence overland to Ascension. A battalion of infantry also has orders to march into the Casas Grandes district from the Central railway. This comprises all of the mobilized federal forces operating north of the state capital.

HEAR FROM TAFT

Wireless Says all on Board Arkansas are Well

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH]
COLON, Dec. 23.—A wireless dispatch was received here this evening from the battleship Arkansas, which is bringing President Taft and party to the canal zone. The message said that all on board were well. The Arkansas is due here tomorrow morning at 8 o'clock.

DESPERADO IDENTIFIED

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH]
SANTA ANA, Dec. 23.—The developments of today practically cleared the mystery of the identity of the young desperado, who was killed near here a week ago in a battle with a posse. It is practically certain that he was Ira Jones of Linto, Ore., although he was buried here today under a permit issued to "name unknown."

"HUMMER" HELD UP

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH]
SPRINGFIELD, Dec. 23.—The Alton "Hummer" a Chicago and Alton railroad train is reported to have been held up shortly after midnight near this station, two miles south of this city.

CONVICT PUSHED ACROSS BORDER

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 23.—Pushed across the Canadian border into the hands of American officers, because the treaty between this nation and Canada makes no provisions for extraditing prisoners, Jack Black, a notorious convict was produced in court here today and sentenced to one year at San Quentin on a charge for which he had previously been sentenced to 25 years.

Woman Collapses As Physician Tells Of Murder Plot

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH]

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—The coroner's jury today returned a verdict declaring that Frank Raude, a wealthy contractor, who died last Friday, several days after making a will leaving all his property to his wife, was the victim of a murder plot. Physicians who analyzed Raude's viscera testified they found a large quantity of poison in the organs. Mrs. Mary Raude collapsed and sank to the floor unconscious at the inquest when Dr. W. H. Burnmeister testified that an analysis of the victim's viscera showed it contained thirty grains of one kind of poison and nineteen grains of another. Raude was found dead in bed at his home several days ago after he had made a will bequeathing his property to his wife.

TRY TO KEEP CASTRO OUT

Former Dictator of Venezuela Headed for United States. Must Pass Rigid Health Examination to Get In.

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The coming to America under the name of Rinz, Cipriano Castro, one time president and practically dictator of Venezuela, was revealed in a dispatch today to the state department from the American embassy at Paris. The Venezuelan exile aboard the steamer "Latouraine" is due in New York next Saturday it is stated. The department is confronted with a disagreeable question as to what to do with him. It is said he will be watched by secret service operatives. It was tacitly admitted if Castro can be kept out of the United States it must be done under the color of the public health laws and regulations for there is no legal charge against him that would warrant such action. Therefore a decision of the question of admission will probably be left to the department of commerce and labor which is charged with the conduct of the immigration to the United States.

Officials of that department today said that Castro will be subjected to a rigid examination immediately upon landing to determine the advisability of allowing him to enter the country, but no official was prepared today to say whether the government as a matter of policy would go to extremes to keep the Venezuelan out. Officials here would not hazard a guess as to the purpose of Castro's visit. Should the ex-president cherish a design of starting another revolution against the government of President Gomez of Venezuela, he will certainly find difficulty in his operations in this country, where his every movement will be watched by agents of the department of justice to prevent violations of the neutrality act.

PARLIAMENT ADJOURNS.

French Law Makers Take Vacation Over Christmas.

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH]

PARIS, Dec. 23.—Parliament adjourned tonight for the Christmas holidays. It will meet again in January to elect a new president of the republic. The last business transacted was the adoption of a motion by Representative Lagrossilliere, of Martinique, asking the government to put in force urgent measures for securing to the French Antilles the fullest benefits to be derived from the opening of the Panama canal.

RITCHIE'S XMAS CHECK

Cub President Give Cub Pitcher Thousand for His Wins Last Season

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH]

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—Pitcher Louis Ritchie of the Chicago Nationals will receive a Christmas check for \$1,000 from C. M. Murphy, president of the club for winning his per cent of the games last season. Murphy promised Ritchie \$500 if he exceeded the average of wins in 1911, but Ritchie missed the mark by a few points. Murphy repeated the offer beginning last season and in addition said he would make up the \$500 Louis failed to secure in 1911.

TURKEY ENVOYS SAY TERMS ARE IMPOSSIBLE

Meet With Representatives of the Allies and Then Ask for Adjournment Until Saturday to Consider the Proclamation.

SESSION FIFTEEN MINUTES LONG

Under the Territorial Claims of the Various Countries the Entire Map of Southern Europe Would Be Changed.

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH]

LONDON, Dec. 23.—After several days of preliminary skirmishing, in accordance with the cherished traditions of oriental diplomacy, the Turkish delegates faced today the real attack of the allies in the first meeting of the peace conference, at which the victorious allies laid their most important cards on the table. These form the territorial conditions which they had agreed to impose upon the Ottoman empire.

The demands set forth were: First—The cession by Turkey of all territory west of a line starting at a point east of Rodosto, on the sea of Marmora, to a point on the bay of Malata, on the Black sea, excluding the peninsula of Gallipoli, where Albania's status is to be decided by the powers.

Second—The cession of the Aegean islands occupied by the Greek forces in the present war and by the Italians in the recent war.

Third—The cession to Greece of all Turkish rights in the island of Crete.

The allies are not revealing today the financial proposals which they will make to Turkey, reserving them for a future meeting. Before the allies presented their specifications today the Turks announced their government was prepared to proceed with the negotiations, leaving the question of the revivification of Adrianople for discussion between Turkey and Bulgaria. They abandoned the previous request to provision Scutari and Janina.

The formal conference lasted only a quarter of an hour. The Turks listened to the proclamation relating to their European empire without formal comment and asked for adjournment until Saturday for consideration of the allies' demands. In an informal conversation with the delegates, which consumed an hour, it was asserted that it would be impossible for them to accept such terms, but that such a statement was inevitable at a meeting of this character and was expected today.

The territorial profits of the same as those published in these dispatches on December 14, with the exception of the arrangement the powers have made for Albania, with autonomy of Albania under the suzerainty of the porte, but not its sovereignty, Albania will become what Crete was and what Egypt is in relation to Turkey. The sultan will be the nominal ruler, but without political, administrative or military power. He will have the right to raise his flag in Albania and to appoint a resident governor, but only for the purpose of ratifying decisions of the local government.

All the delegations attended today's session in full force, with military, legal advisers and secretaries. Everyone appreciated the fact that the meeting is to mark the passage of the deliberations from the preliminary stage to that of the real negotiations, destined to revise the map of eastern Europe.

The atmosphere, it was stated, in the council chamber was charged with tense feeling throughout the proceedings. M. Novokovitch, head of the Serbian delegation, took the chair, while on his right was M. Nikolic, speaker of the Serbian parliament, and on his left M. Vostitch, the Serbian minister to France. Immediately after General Coghil had read the minutes of the last meeting and they were approved the president of the conference asked Rechas Pasha, head of the Turkish delegation, to notify the conference as to the instructions he had received from Constantinople.

The Pasha replied that the Imperial Ottoman government wished to give one more proof of its sincere desire to hasten the discussion and to do the utmost possible to reach a satisfactory and honorable settlement with all parties concerned. Therefore it had instructed him to treat with all the allies, Greece included, without any conditions.

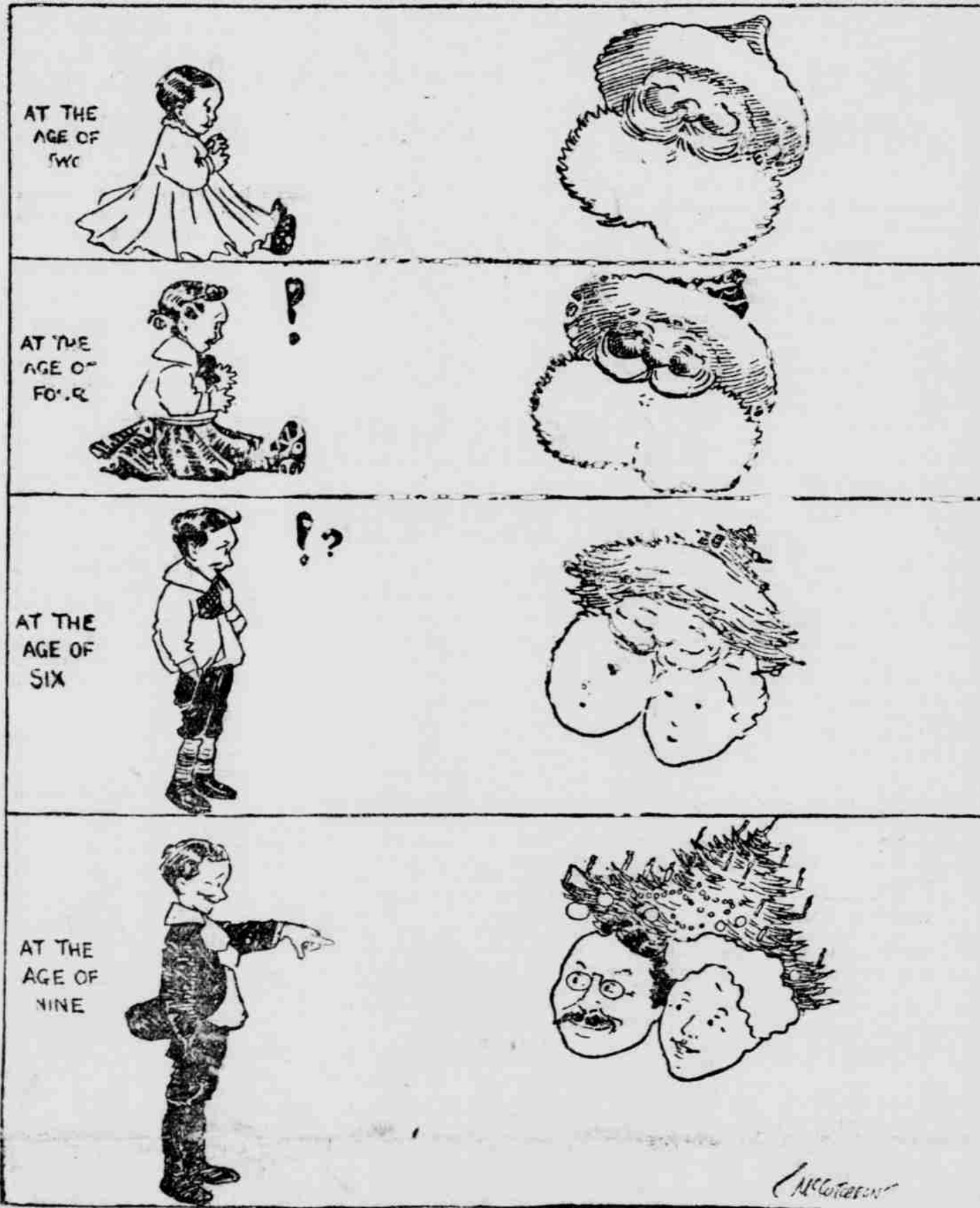
Dealing with the question of revivifying the besieged fortresses, Rechas Pasha said that Turkey was ready to lay aside the case of Scutari and Janina. In Adrianople, which was referred to as the cradle of Turkish power in Europe, he said it was known that hospitals are overcrowded, patients lacking primary necessities, while women, children and the aged are suffering and starving. He must

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THE EVOLUTION OF SANTA CLAUS.

By John T. McCutcheon.

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ST. NICHOLAS EMULATED BY PHOENIX ELKS

Local Lodge Will Today Undertake Distribution of Christmas Cheer to Hundreds of Needy Families In This City.

In some things the eleventh hour goes with the Elks but not with the Phoenix lodge when it comes to ferrying out needy families at Christmas time. Up to five o'clock yesterday afternoon Chairman A. R. Gatter, of the Elks' Christmas committee had received and caused to be investigated no less than 425 individual cases where need of a more or less serious nature was present. In addition to all this, several other Elks, announced last evening that they had varying from thirty to one or two families reported which will be investigated this morning. To the casual observer the stupendousness of the task already performed as well as that confronting the Elks today, does not appear.

When dozens of automobiles, gift laden, start out from the Elks Temple late today the climax of one of the most beautiful features of the Yuletide period in Phoenix will be approaching consummation. To homes where the grim reaper has paid a visit and caused impoverishment, in habitations where sickness has drained the family purse, in hovels where old age has crept in and palsied the wage earning arm, in cheerless back rooms where intemperance has robbed wives and little ones of food and warm clothing, the cheerful band will penetrate today and in the only way within its power endeavor to bring at least one day's cheer to despairing hearts and joy to little ones who doubt that Santa Claus will find them.

The Christmas giving of the Phoenix Elks is conducted on businesslike principles. Business men are identified with the work. Before a name is placed upon the list of those to be remembered pretty nearly the exact truth of the conditions which obtain in the particular case are known beyond any doubt. And in those cases where refinement and a noble spirit of forbearance in the fact of dispiriting deprivation inclines an individual or family to conceal real conditions or to refuse deserving aid, an effort is made to show that there is nothing charitable about the distribution. It is shown that whatever has been allotted by the committee belongs just where it has been assigned and that the indi-

(Continued on Page Eight)

MME. BLOCH IS FREED IN PARIS

PARIS, Dec. 23.—Mme Bloch, a novelist, who on July 31 last shot and killed Mrs. Minnie Bridgman, wife of James E. Bridgman, an employee of the Paris branch of an American Life Insurance company, was acquitted in assize court here today of a charge of homicide. The shooting was the outcome of an attachment between Mme. Bloch's husband and Mrs. Bridgman.

Shoots Friend in Back Then Burns Body in a Barn

POMONA, Dec. 23.—After signing a statement, which the police authorities declared contained a full confession, Levi Epreman, was arraigned today charged with the murder of "Jack" Nicholson an automobile dealer, whose charred bones were found in the ruins of a barn near Lordsburg, several days ago. The prisoner was held without bail, preliminary to the hearing set for Thursday morning.

Before signing the alleged confession, Epreman was in a hysterical condition. According to the statement, Epreman said he shot Nicholson in the back, while the latter was riding in an automobile, which the prisoner used to convey him and Miss Nana Shawyer on a trip to Santa Barbara.

After the killing of Nicholson, Epreman said he dragged the body into the barn on the Naynham farm and then fired the structure.

EXPERT SAYS QUINCY EXAGGERATED SOMEWHAT

Mine Promoters Claimed Ore Worth 350 Times Real Value—Mail Fraud Charged.

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH]

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Josiah Quincy and others associated with him in promoting mining properties, estimated the contents of the iron ore claims of the Wilbur mine, at 350 times the amount reported by the expert employed to examine the mine, according to testimony today in the trial of Quincy, Julian Hawthorne, Dr. William J. Morton and Albert Freeman for alleged fraudulent use of the mails.

Arthur B. Willmott a mining expert, testified he reported about 100,000 tons of ore in the mine. Quincy's reply to the report, said the witness was that the company estimated 350,000 tons in the property.

ROMPING CHILD PLAYS PART IN DYNAMITE CASE

Four Year Old Son of Defendant Made Subject of Comment While Attorney Harding Argues for Defense.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 23.—Four-year-old George Bernhardt, who was playing in the lobby of the Federal building with a toy engine was made the subject of comment for the defense before the jury in the "dynamite conspiracy" trial today.

The boy is the son of William C. Bernhardt of Cincinnati, one of the forty defendants accused of aiding the McNamara's in their dynamiting. The wives of about thirty of the defendants and almost as many children have been sitting through the trial for almost three months, and while his parents were listening to a denial of the charges of dynamiting, the boy was roaming through the lobby with an early supply of Christmas presents.

"If after this long trial you must convict somebody," said Attorney William N. Harding, "don't convict William Bernhardt, for he is an industrious iron worker with a wife to support. He has worked hard all his life and raised a family. But I say, if you must convict somebody by the name of Bernhardt, convict his little boy. Send the boy to the penitentiary. He might stand it, but Bernhardt, with a wife, could not."

Harding also spoke in behalf of all the defendants. Speaking for all the defendants, Harding referred to letters taken from the Iron Worker International headquarters at Indianapolis upon which the government charges that the dynamite conspiracy was directed through the mails. Harding said the letters remained in the headquarters six months after J. J. McNamara, the secretary, had been locked up in Los Angeles, none of the writers of the letters ever went to Indianapolis to recover them.

"Why, after McNamara was arrested and charged with dynamiting, didn't these men rush to Indianapolis to recover their letters?" asked the attorney. "The natural move of a guilty man would be to destroy evidence of his guilt. But these men did not attempt to regain the letters which remained in McNamara's office unmolested until the government took possession."

Harding also said the government (Continued on Page Eight)

BIG RAILROAD MEN INDICTED IN NEW YORK

Charles H. Mellen, Edson J. Chamberlain and Alfred W. Smithers Charged With Violation of Anti-Trust Laws.

ARE HEADS OF LARGE SYSTEMS

Government Bases Its Charges on Memoranda Alleged to Have Passed Between Mellen and Chamberlain.

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH]

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Charles H. Mellen, president of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad, Edson J. Chamberlain, president of the Grand Trunk railway, of Canada, and Alfred W. Smithers, chairman of the board of directors of the Grand Trunk, were indicted jointly today under the Sherman anti-trust law by the federal grand jury here.

They are charged with conspiring in restraint of trade in connection with a "memorandum agreement" between the two roads, under which it is alleged the Grand Trunk proposed to abandon an extension of railroad lines to Providence, R. I. Together they projected a steamship line between Providence and New York. The penalty for the crime charged is one year in jail or a fine of \$50,000, or both.

Mellen and Chamberlain, upon being notified of the indictment, promised the federal authorities through counsel that they would appear at 1 o'clock tomorrow to enter pleas.

"But for the commission of the crime set forth," the Grand Trunk system, the indictment charges, would actively compete with the New Haven system for interstate and foreign traffic between southern New England cities and the west. Through their connections, it is recited, both systems reach the same cities in the west, both in the United States and Canada.

Seven overt acts are set forth in the indictment. These include meetings in New York and the exchange of memoranda between Mellen and Chamberlain, the first of which provided that the "Grand Trunk would sell the New Haven system all its interests in the Central Vermont and its subsidiaries, which would include all the proposed extensions in New England."

The second and final memorandum in which the "defendant Mellen is interested provided, however, that the Grand Trunk was to retain the Central Vermont and existing controlled lines and continue its existing business as at present."

The memorandum arranged for an interchange of traffic at certain points, the joint use of certain lines and set forth that the New Haven should "protect the Grand Trunk" in every way in its power in the present differential rates from New England points and such new territory which it was proposed to open up to it hereby."

IS AN UNDESIRABLE.

Man Who Labeled King George is Ordered Kept.

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH]

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Edward F. Mylius, an Englishman convicted in London of libeling King George V, and sentenced to serve one year in prison, was ordered deported today by the commissioner of immigration at Ellis Island. Mylius was held as an undesirable citizen. Mylius published a story that the English sovereign had contracted a morganatic marriage in Malta in 1880. The story was disproved in the action for libel brought against him by the solicitor general of England.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Dec. 24

Merry Christmas!

There, We Beat You to It. Hope Santa Doesn't Forget You, and That You Have Forgotten No One Else.

"God Bless Us Every One!"